

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 097484
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO OAU COLLECTIVE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 097484

FOLLOWING REPEAT ADDIS 1710 ACTION SECSTATE INFO PRETORIA
CAPETOWN AND USUN NEW YORK DATED APRIL 13, 1978.

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 1710

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

DEPT PASS OAU COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, OAU, XJ, RH

SUBJ: OAU COMMITTEE VISIT FRONTLINE STATES

1. ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY (OAU) ANNOUNCED THAT
MILITARY AND ECONOMIC SUB-COMMETTEES OF OAU "COMMITTEE
OF TEN" ON ASSISTANCE TO FRONTLINE STATES BEGAN WORKING
VISIT TO BOTSWANA, MOZAMBIQUE AND ZAMBIA APRIL 10,
WHICH WILL LAST UNTIL APRIL 21. MAIN PURPOSE OF VISIT
WAS DESCRIBED AS EFFORT TO GATHER FIRST-HAND INFORMA-
TION ON PREVAILING SITUATION IN ABOVE COUNTRIES FOLLOW-
ING "UNWARRANTED SERIES OF AGGRESSION AND DEVASTATION
COMMITTED BY ILLEGAL RACIST IAN SMITH GOVERNMENT AGAINST
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PAGE 02 STATE 097484

THESE AFRICAN STATES." OAU MISSION IS LED BY TOGOLESE
FONMIN KODJO AND WILL HAND OVER TO THREE COUNTRIES FROM
OAU SPECIAL FUND OF LIBERATION COMMITTEE TOKEN DONA-
TION TOTALLING ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

2. MILITARY SUB-COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF ALGERIA,
CAMEROON AND LIBERIA WILL ASSESS VARIOUS MILITARY RE-

QUIREMENTS OF FRONTLINE STATES TO "COUNTER SMITH'S AGGRESSION." ECONOMIC SUB-COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF EGYPT, GUINEA-BISSAU AND TOGO WILL STUDY AND RECOMMEND HOW OAU CAN OFFER ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THESE STATES. OAU AS AN INSTITUTION HAS BEEN INEFFECTUAL TO DATE IN MEETING NEEDS OF FRONTLINE STATES IN ECONOMIC AND MILITARY FIELDS AND IS UNLIKELY TO IMPROVE ITS RECORD GREATLY IN FUTURE. HOWEVER, OAU HAS HAD GOOD SUCCESS IN PROMOTING POLITICAL INTEREST OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN STATES AND "COMMITTEE OF TEN" COULD BE EXPECTED TO EMPHASIZE THIS ASPECT OF ITS VISIT IN EFFORT TO GENERATE ASSISTANCE FROM THOSE COUNTRIES MORE ABLE TO PROVIDE IT.
MATHERON UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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